



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Lisa Feldt
Director

February 14, 2017

Mr. Aaron Lewis
Fairfield Residential
1110 North Glebe Road, Suite 650
Arlington, VA 22201

Re: Noise Suppression Plan for construction at Plaza Studio, 915 Silver Spring Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland

Dear Mr. Lewis:

This letter is to acknowledge receipt of the Noise Suppression Plan (NSP) submitted to the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on January 18, 2017 for excavation and below-grade construction activities related to Studio Plaza, 915 Silver Spring Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland.

We have completed our review of the plan and found it to be sufficient, and approve this plan with the following terms and conditions:

1. This approval is specific to only the noise created from the excavation of soil and removal of bedrock, sheeting and shoring activities, installation of concrete footings, walls and caissons, and installation of tower crane foundations.
2. The 85 A-Weighted decibel (dBA) limit only applies from 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday for the activities specified in item 1 above. At all other times, including weekday Federal holidays, the maximum noise levels must comply with the noise limits as specified in Section 31B-6 of the Montgomery County Code.
3. Select equipment for low noise emission design.
4. Construction equipment shall be equipped with well-maintained and effective mufflers, and moving parts shall be well lubricated to avoid unnecessary noise from squeaking parts. Equipment access doors and hatches should remain closed when the units are in operation and all equipment should be operated at the minimum level necessary to get the job done. Minimize banging, clattering, buzzing and other annoying types of noises.
5. The hoe ram head used for bedrock removal shall be lined with noise dampening materials as detailed in the NSP submittal packet.
6. Controlled blasting will be completed with a dirt cover or matting. Blasting shall only occur from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
7. Construct portable noise mitigation barriers around noisy non-mobile pieces of equipment.
8. Soil from the drill bit of an auger drill rig shall be removed without quick twisting, jerking, or hammering the bit.
9. Slamming of tailgates is prohibited. Advise all onsite staff, including delivery and dump truck drivers of noise mitigation procedures prior to work.

10. Avoid unnecessary backing of equipment and trucks. Configure the site to maximize forward movement, especially during the excavation phase of the project. Consider using lawful alternatives to factory pre-set backup alarms, such as flagpersons or white noise backup alarms.
11. Where possible, schedule the more noise intensive activities for less intrusive times, such as mid-morning to mid-afternoon.
12. Where possible, use the local power grid to reduce the use of generators and internal combustion powered pumps.
13. Avoid prolonged idling of equipment. If equipment is not utilized for long periods, operator should shut off equipment to reduce idling noise.
14. Communicate frequently with nearby residential buildings so they are aware of the work schedule and expected construction activities.
15. Noise levels will be monitored on a regular basis with the decibel levels and locations of the monitoring sites kept in a log on site, which shall be available for inspection and review upon request.
16. You must maintain a log on site containing detailed information concerning any complaints received regarding noise from this renovation project.
17. DEP may suspend, modify or revoke this approval for any violation of the terms and conditions of the Noise Suppression Plan.
18. A copy of this approval and the Noise Suppression Plan must be available at the construction site.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Gretchen F. Ekstrom at (240) 777-7750 or by email at Gretchen.Ekstrom@montgomerycountymd.gov, or Steve Martin at (240) 777-7746 or by email at Steve.Martin@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Sincerely,



Lisa Feldt
Director

cc: Reemberto Rodriguez, Silver Spring Regional Services Center
Captain Marcus Jones, MC Police, 3rd District Station
Sergeant Scott Brooks, MC Police, 3rd District Station
Brian McFee, CBG
Stan Edwards, MC DEP
Steve Martin, MC DEP